

# AFCESA **A-GRAM**

AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER SUPPORT AGENCY



02-06

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## PROTECTIVE MASK ASSESSMENTS WITH THE TDA-99M

### SYNOPSIS:

HQ AFCESA/CEXR, in association with Applied Research Associates, Inc., completed initial distribution and training on the TDA-99M, Respirator Function Tester. Civil engineer Readiness and base supply mobility personnel at 24 locations identified by HQ USAF/ILEX were the first to receive the new equipment and training. The TDA-99M is the Air Force's first portable, integrated respirator function tester and has been nominated to become the Joint Service protective mask leakage tester.

### USAF PROTECTIVE MASK ASSESSMENT VISITS:

Visits consisted of a week-long protective mask assessment that included a two-day train-the-trainer course. The training course covered the operation and maintenance of the TDA-99M, including post-visit program sustainment guidelines. Concurrent with the training, a random assessment of 450-550 protective masks issued to base personnel was conducted.

The course provided an orientation and overview of the USAF Protective Mask Assessment Program. Targeted at civil engineer Readiness and Logistics Group supply mobility personnel, the course consisted of four blocks of training (brief

history of mask testing, TDA-99M orientation, USAF mask defect identification, and data collection and reporting) combined with continuous hands-on training. Students received a certificate of training upon completion.

The Air Force Protective Mask Assessment Team (PMAT) conducted on-site assessments at the 24 CONUS and OCONUS locations between March and December 2001. Each location was equipped with at least one TDA-99M and given instructions for program sustainment following the team's departure.

In 2002 the Protective Mask Assessment Program will differ slightly from 2001. The PMAT will visit 20 different bases to conduct only week-long assessments of protective masks. No training or equipment for sustainment will be provided. A TDA-99M training CD-ROM has been developed and will be distributed to all CE Readiness Flights in

the near future. It is anticipated that beginning in FY03 additional testers will be procured for a total force distribution to all major USAF installations.

### CONTACT:

For questions regarding the PMAT program or the TDA-99M CD-ROM, contact:

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